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## IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Original) A contact formation method comprising:

forming a film comprising Si and Ti on a surface of a layer of a Group III nitride semiconductor; and

heat-treating the film and the semiconductor layer.

- 2. (Original) The contact formation method as set forth in claim 1, wherein the film formation is performed by depositing Si and Ti in this order.
- 3. (Presently Amended) The contact formation method as set forth in claim 1  $\frac{2}{2}$ , wherein a heat treatment temperature is in the range of 500 $\Box$ C to 1100 $\Box$ C.
  - 4. (Original) A semiconductor device comprising:

a Group III nitride semiconductor layer into which Si is diffused as an impurity by a heat treatment performed after a film comprising Si and Ti is formed on a surface of the Group III nitride semiconductor layer; and

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an electrode film of  $\mbox{TiSi}_2$  formed by a reaction between  $\mbox{Ti}$  and  $\mbox{Si}_{\cdot}$